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Soviet Frees Two Americans Secretly Detained for Weeks

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Associated Press
Two American tourists missing in the Soviet Union since mid-August were reported yesterday to have been released by Soviet authorities after being secretly detained for several weeks.

The two are Harvey C. Bennett of Bath, Maine, and Mary Kaminsky of Jefferson Township, Cass County, Mich. Aides of Rep. John J. McFall (D-Calif.) said they had been told by the State Department that Bennett and Kaminsky had been detained by Soviet authorities for violation of photographic regulations.

The State Department, after filing inquiries with the Soviet travel agency Intourist, had been told last month that the two never left Soviet territory. The U. S. Embassy in Moscow on Sept. 21 and 29

and again Oct. 3 pressed the Soviet Foreign Ministry for information.

Authorities reported yesterday that a reply had finally come through from the Soviet Foreign Office to the effect that the men have been released and will be coming home shortly.

The State Department planned to make an official announcement. Meanwhile, it

sent word to McFall and other interested Congressmen. McFall had entered the case because Bennett had lived in Tracy, Calif.

The State Department told McFall's office that the United States Ambassador in Moscow was informed that the two men were expelled from Russia at Uzhgorod on the Czechoslovakian border and were driving west to Prague.

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